



Appalachia

The Heart of Who We Are



Stereotypes Associated with People from Appalachia

- Backward
- Uneducated
- Large families
- Poor
- No running water in homes
- Bare-foot and pregnant
- Cars on blocks in yard
- Intermarry



People from This Area Have Been Called . . .

Hicks

Hillbillies

Rednecks

Mountaineers

& Appalachian

Americans (we
prefer just plain
American)

Cultural Characteristics

- Family Solidarity
 - Loyalty runs deep, extends beyond immediate family, “blood is thicker than water”
- Fierce Individualism
 - Hospitality, pride, self-reliance, neighborliness



Cultural Characteristics Continued

- Distinct Gender Roles (men & women assume specific roles in the family, church, and workplace)
- Ties to the Land (love the environment and their homes)



More Cultural Characteristics



- Sense of Fatalism (belief that events in life are determined by powers beyond one's control - - God)

Even More Cultural Characteristics



- Patriotism
 - Love US flag, land
- Sense of Humor
 - May seem dour, but laughs at self
- Modesty & Being Oneself
 - One should not put on airs or get above their raising



Appalachia:

Linguistic Traits & Characteristics



Appalachian Region

- Southern highland region of the US
- Encompasses all of WV, follows east of Blue Ridge, NC in a SW direction into GA and turns to include AL, TN, and KY

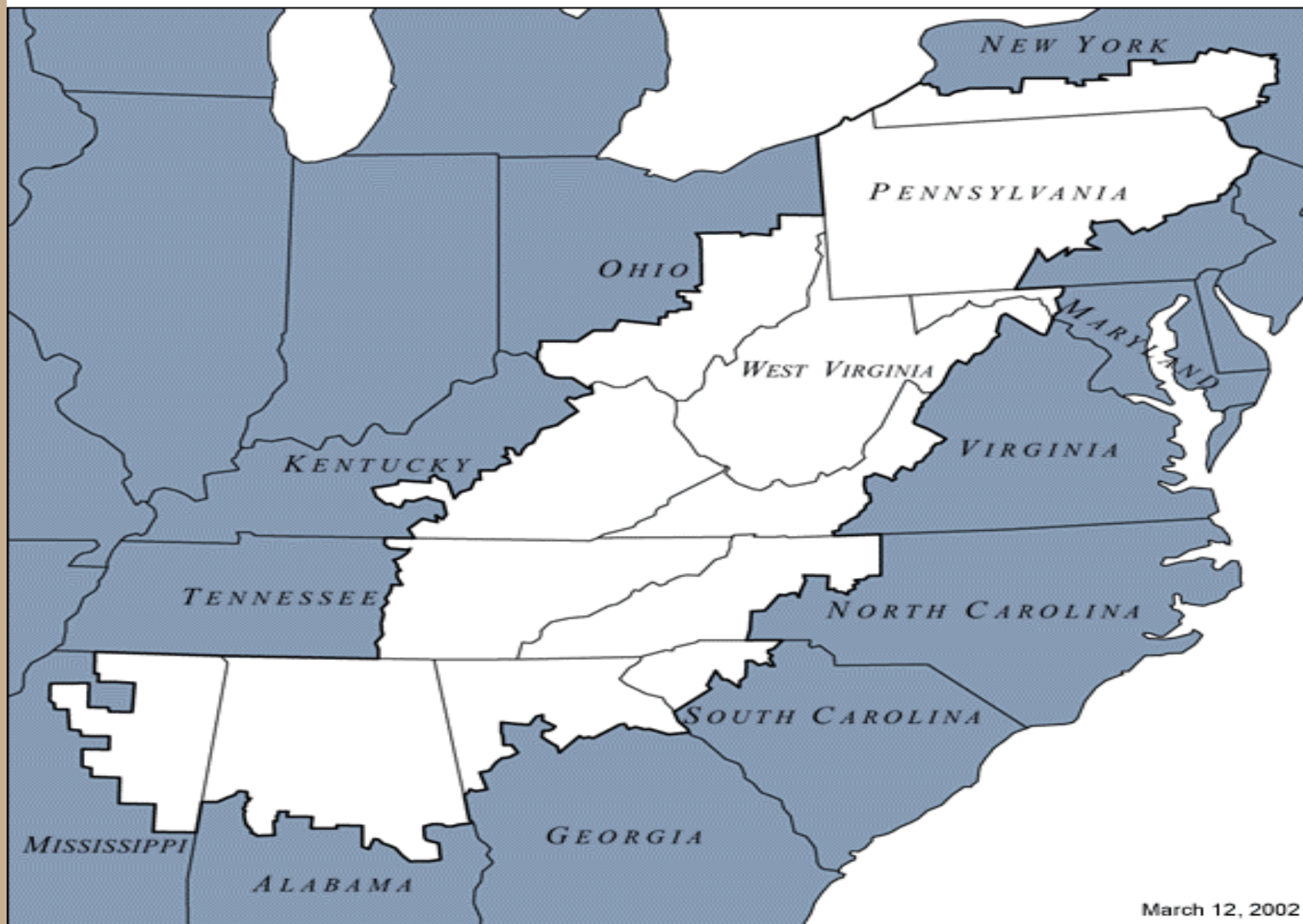
Total of
13 States

All of WV

$\frac{3}{4}$ of PA

East TN

The Appalachian Region



March 12, 2002

Source: Appalachian Regional Commission

Grammatical Structures

- A sampling:
 - Nonstandard irregular verb forms
 - Multiple negation
 - Completive done
 - Preposition intrusion
 - Double modals
- Examples:
 - Growed, knowed
 - Ain't never, can't hardly
 - I've done done it
 - Where are you going to
 - Might could, might should, used to couldn't

Grammatical Structures Cont.

- ***Another helping:***

- Subject/verb agreement
- Positive anymore
- Uninflected plural nouns when nouns preceded by measures
- Personal dative

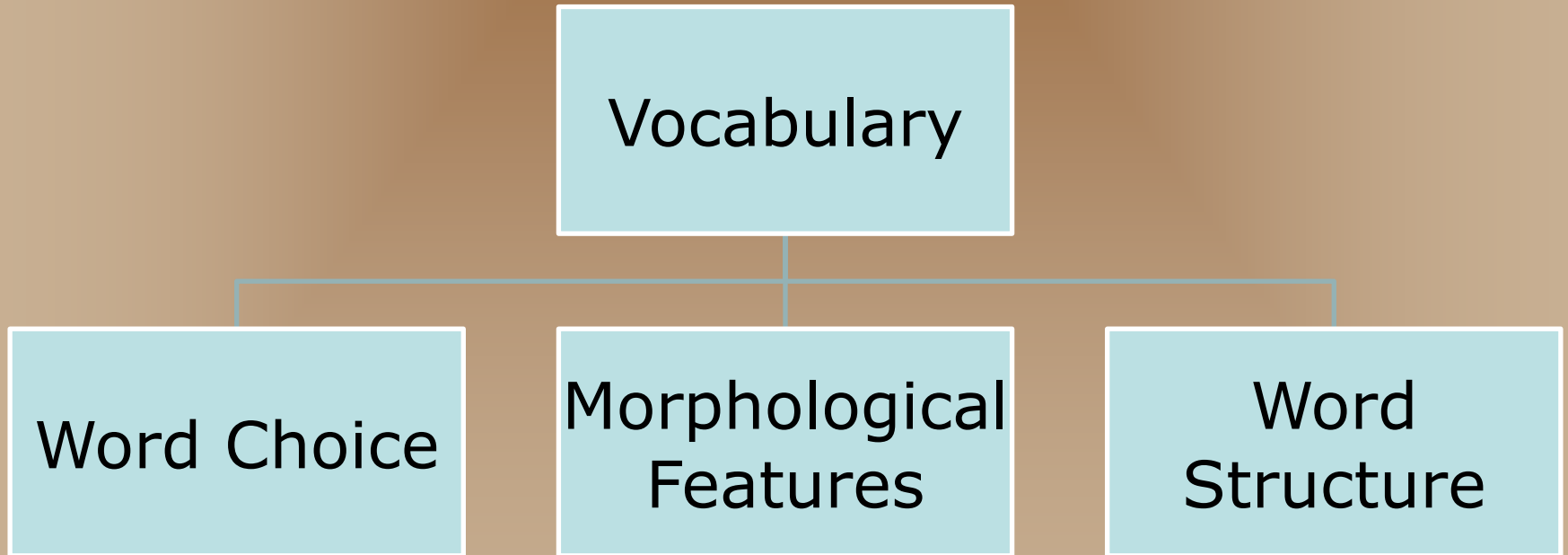
- ***Examples:***

- He don't want any dessert
- Anymore I don't care
- I went after two gallon of milk & came back with two loaf of bread
- I'm going to buy me a new dress

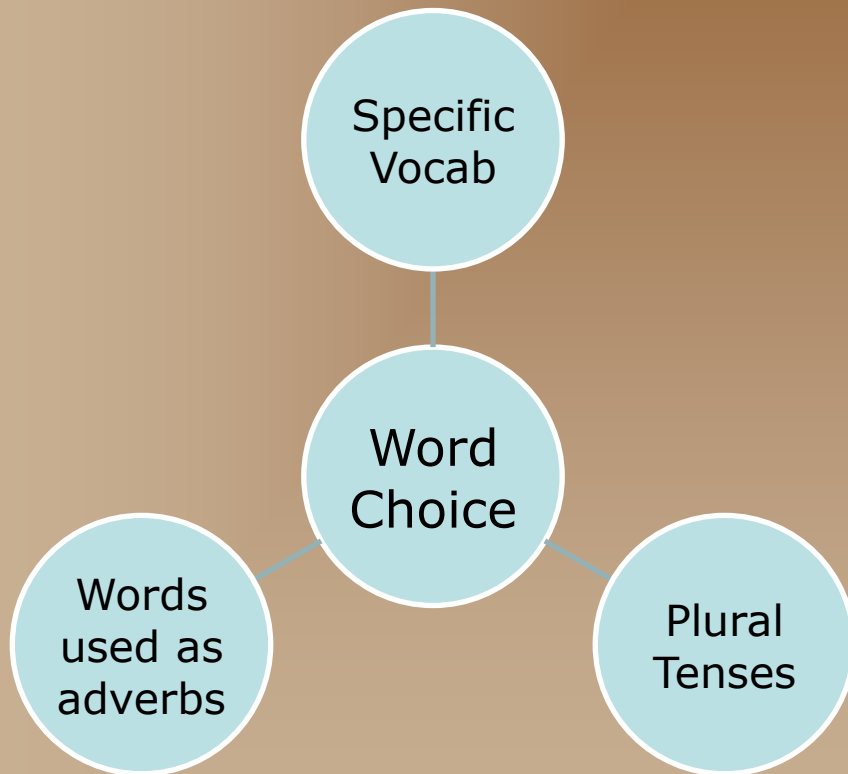
Phonological Structures

- Intrusive /r/
- Intrusive /t/
- /h/ Retention (occurs in front of pronoun it)
- Final /t/ sound
- Merger of /e/ & /i/ (most common before /n/, /m/, & /t/)
- Substitution of final sounds in unstressed syllables
- Wash = warsh
- Exercise = exertcise
- Hit'll worsen is about all can be said for it
- Once = oncet
- Tin = ten, pin = pen
- Monday = Mondee

Lexical Features



Lexical Features Cont.



- Reckon, hidy, mamaw/papaw, fixen, kyarn, polecat, wasper
- Adverbs: druther, yonder, dang, plumb, tee-total
- Plurals: deskus, youns, young'ens

Lexical: morphological features

- The a-prefix on –ing participles is syntactically restricted to adverbial complements and progressives; found more extensively among older generations
- No –ly on adverbs
- *EXAMPLE:*
 - “I thought you wanted them fleurs to live, but you’re a-killin’ ‘em” (Kiser in *Where the Lilies Bloom*)
 - *He explained it real simple; that’s job awful hard to do*

Lexical: word structure

- Hour = air
- Our = ourn
- Directly = dreckly
- I don't care to (positive meaning)

Exploring Language Usage

- For next week use the handout provided in class to interview three speakers to learn their terminology for the bold faced words. Record their responses in the appropriate columns, then read an Appalachian children's or young adult book and complete the chart.